

**DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR  
DESIGN  
PATENT APPLICATION  
(37 CFR 1.63)**

Declaration Submitted with Initial Filing      OR       Declaration Submitted after Initial Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16 (e)) required)

Attorney Docket Number	F-206
First Named Inventor	Ralph;
<b>COMPLETE IF KNOWN</b>	
Application Number	/
Filing Date	11/30/2001
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

Distraction Instrument For Use In Anterior Cervical Fixation Surgery

*(Title of the Invention)*

the specification of which

is attached hereto

OR

was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY)  as United States Application Number or PCT International

Application Number  and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY)  (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached?	
			<input type="checkbox"/>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto:					

[Page 1 of 2]

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 21 minutes to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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## DECLARATION — Utility or Design Patent Application

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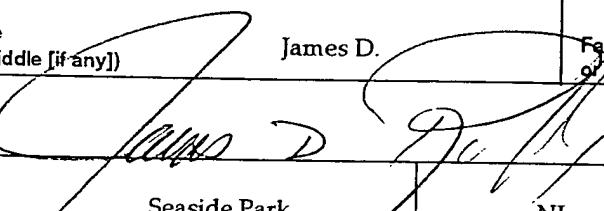
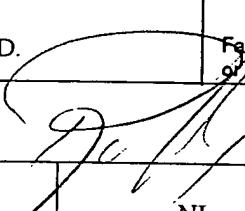
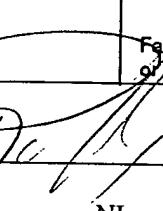
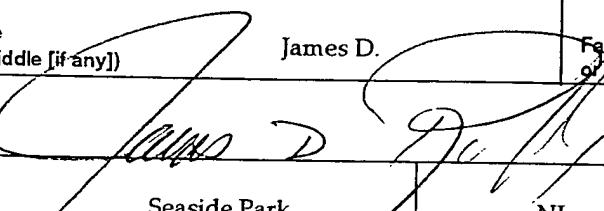
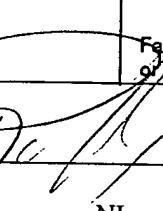
Name  Joseph P. Errico,

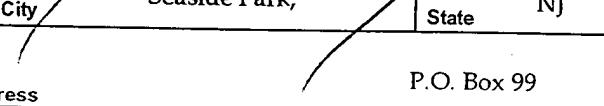
Address  150 Douglas Road

City <input type="text"/> Far Hills	State <input type="text"/> NJ	ZIP <input type="text"/> 07931
Country <input type="text"/> US	Telephone <input type="text"/> 917-373-5918	Fax <input type="text"/> 208-988-6890

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

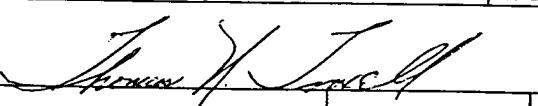
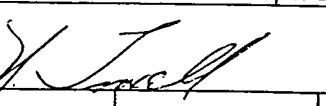
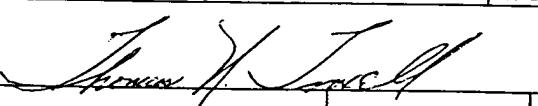
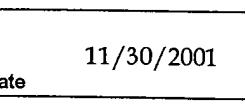
NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR:  A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

Given Name (first and middle [if any]) 	James D. 	Family Name or Surname 	Ralph;
Inventor's Signature 		Date 	11/30/2001
Residence: City <input type="text"/> Seaside Park,	State <input type="text"/> NJ	Country <input type="text"/> US	Citizenship <input type="text"/> US

Mailing Address 

City <input type="text"/> Seaside Park,	State <input type="text"/> NJ	ZIP <input type="text"/> 08752	Country <input type="text"/> US
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NAME OF SECOND INVENTOR:  A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor

Given Name (first and middle [if any]) 	Thomas N. 	Family Name or Surname 	Troxell
Inventor's Signature 		Date 	11/30/2001
Residence: City <input type="text"/> Pottstown,	State <input type="text"/> PA	Country <input type="text"/> US	Citizenship <input type="text"/> US

Mailing Address  314 Bishop Road

City <input type="text"/> Pottstown,	State <input type="text"/> PA	ZIP <input type="text"/> 19465	Country <input type="text"/> US
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Additional inventors are being named on the  supplemental Additional Inventor(s) sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A attached hereto.

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box →

PTO/SB/81 (02-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0035

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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## POWER OF ATTORNEY OR AUTHORIZATION OF AGENT

Application Number	
Filing Date	12/1/2003
First Named Inventor	Ralph;
Title	Distraction Instrument for use in Anterior Cervical Fixation Surgery
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	F-303

I hereby appoint:

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Applicant/Inventor.

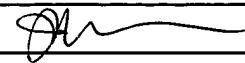
Assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71.

Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96).

### SIGNATURE of Applicant or Assignee of Record

Name      Joseph P. Errico,      CEO,      SpineCore, Inc.

Signature



Date

12/1/2003

NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below\*.

\*Total of  forms are submitted.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 3 minutes to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

## **ASSIGNMENT AND ASSUMPTION AGREEMENT**

This Assignment and Assumption Agreement (the "Agreement") is effective January 21, 2003 (the "Effective Date") and is among Third Millennium Engineering, LLC., a Delaware limited liability company of Summit, New Jersey ("Millennium"), Third Millennium Enterprises, LLC ("Enterprises") and SpineCore, Inc., a Delaware corporation of Summit New Jersey (the "Company").

Millennium or Enterprises owns or controls certain inventions which are embodied by or encompassed in certain issued patents and pending patent applications, as identified in attached Schedule (collectively, the "Inventions").

For good and sufficient consideration, Millennium and Enterprises hereby irrevocably sells and assigns to the Company, and the Company hereby assumes, Millennium's and Enterprises' entire right, title, and interest in the Inventions throughout the world, and in and to all applications for patent and patents for the Inventions, in all countries of the world, including all divisions, reissues, continuations, substitutions and extensions thereof, and all rights arising under or pursuant to any and all international agreements, treaties or laws relating to the protection of industrial property, including rights of priority, resulting from the filing of any of said applications.

Attachment A (Short Form Assignment and Assumption Agreement)  
Page 2

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the Effective Date set forth above.

Third Millennium Engineering, LLC

  
By: Joseph P. Errico, Esq.  
Title: Manager  
Date: 1/21/03

SpineCore, Inc.

  
By: Joseph P. Errico, Esq.  
Title: CEO  
Date: 1/21/03

Third Millennium Enterprises, LLC

  
By: Joseph P. Errico, Esq.  
Title: Manager  
Date: 1/21/03

Attachment A (Short Form Assignment and Assumption Agreement)

Page 3

**Schedule of Patents and Patent Applications**

Title	Country	Particulars
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having Limited Rotation Using a Captured Ball and Socket Joint With a Solid Ball and Compression Locking Post	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/256,160 Filed 26-Sep-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having a Captured Ball and Socket Joint With a Solid Ball and Compression Locking Post	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/294,981 Filed 14-Nov-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having Limited Rotation Using a Captured Ball and Socket Joint With a Compression Locking Post and a Solid Ball Having a Protrusion	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/294,985 Filed 14-Nov-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having Limited Rotation Using a Captured Ball and Socket Joint with a Solid Ball, a Compression Locking Post and an Interference Pin	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/294,986 Filed 14-Nov-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having Limited Rotation Using a Captured Ball and Socket Joint with a Solid Ball, a Compression Locking Post and an Interference Ball Bearing	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/294,989 Filed 14-Nov-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having a Captured Ball and Socket Joint With a Solid Ball and Retaining Cap	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/294,983 Filed 14-Nov-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having Limited Rotation Using a Captured Ball and Socket Joint With a Solid Ball and Retaining Cap	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/294,982 Filed 14-Nov-2002

Attachment A (Short Form Assignment and Assumption Agreement)  
 Page 4

Title	Country	Particulars
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having Limited Rotation Using a Captured Ball and Socket Joint With a Retaining Cap and a Solid Ball Having a Protrusion	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/294,984  Filed 14-Nov-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having Limited Rotation Using a Captured Ball and Socket Joint with a Solid Ball, a Retaining Cap, and an Interference Pin	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/294,980  Filed 14-Nov-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having Limited Rotation Using a Captured Ball and Socket Joint with a Solid Ball, a Retaining Cap, and an Interference Ball Bearing	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/294,988  Filed 14-Nov-2002
Intervertebral Spacer Device	USA	United States Patent No. 5,989,291  Issued 23-Nov-1999
Intervertebral Spacer Device Having a Radially Thinning Belleville Spring	USA	US Application Serial No. 09/968,047  Filed 1-Oct-2001
Intervertebral Spacer Device Utilizing a Belleville Washer Having Radially Extending Grooves	USA	US Application Serial No. 09/968,046  Filed 1-Oct-2001
Intervertebral Spacer Device Having a Radially Thinning Slotted Belleville Spring	USA	US Application Serial No. 09/968,045  Filed 1-Oct-2001
Intervertebral Spacer Device Utilizing a Spirally Slotted Belleville Washer Having Radially Extending Grooves	USA	US Application Serial No. 09/970,479  Filed 4-Oct-2001

Attachment A (Short Form Assignment and Assumption Agreement)  
Page 5

Title	Country	Particulars
Intervertebral Spacer Device Utilizing a Belleville Washer Having Radially Spaced Concentric Grooves	USA	US Application Serial No. 09/974,154 Filed 11-Oct-2001
Intervertebral Spacer Device Utilizing a Spirally Slotted Belleville Washer Having Radially Spaced Concentric Grooves	USA	US Application Serial No. 09/975,471 Filed 11-Oct-2001
Intervertebral Spacer Device Utilizing a Spirally Slotted Belleville Washer and a Rotational Mounting	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/040,801 Filed 7-Jan-2002
Tension Bearing Artificial Disc Providing a Centroid of Motion Centrally Located Within an Intervertebral Space	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/151,280 Filed 20-May-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Utilizing a Ball Joint Coupling	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/175,417 Filed 19-Jun-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having a Slotted Belleville Washer Force Restoring Element	PCT	PCT Application Serial No. PCT/US02/19660 Filed 19-Jun-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having a Grooved Belleville Washer Force Restoring Element	PCT	PCT Application Serial No. PCT/US02/19654 Filed 19-Jun-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having a Slotted Belleville Washer Force Restoring Element	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/177,013 Filed 21-Jun-2002
Intervertebral Spacer Device Having Arch Shaped Spring Elements	USA	US Application Serial No. 09/982,148

Attachment A (Short Form Assignment and Assumption Agreement)  
Page 6

Title	Country	Particulars
		Filed 18-Oct-2001
Intervertebral Spacer Device Having a Domed Arch Shaped	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/035,640 Filed 9-Nov-2001
Intervertebral Spacer Device Having a Slotted Domed Arch Strip Spring	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/035,614 Filed 9-Nov-2001
Intervertebral Spacer Device Having a Slotted Partial Circular Domed Arch Strip Spring	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/035,669 Filed 9-Nov-2001
Intervertebral Spacer Device Having a Multi-Pronged Domed Spring	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/035,668 Filed 9-Nov-2001
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having an Arched Spring Force Restoring Element	PCT	PCT Application Serial No. PCT/US02/19656 Filed 19-Jun-2002
Intervertebral Spacer Device Having a Wave Washer Force Restoring Element	USA	US Patent No. 6,468,310 Issued 22-Oct-2002
Intervertebral Spacer Device Having a Spiral Wave Washer Force Restoring Element	USA	US Application Serial No. 09/906,118 (Allowed Claims) Filed 16-Jul-2001
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having a Wave Washer Force Restoring Element	PCT	PCT Application Serial No. PCT/US02/19659 Filed 19-Jun-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having a Wave Washer Force Restoring Element	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/177,377 Filed 21-Jun-2002

Attachment A (Short Form Assignment and Assumption Agreement)  
 Page 7

Title	Country	Particulars
Intervertebral Spacer Device Having a Wave Washer Force Restoring Element	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/272,580 Filed 16-Oct-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having a Spider Spring Force Restoring Element	PCT	PCT Application Serial No. PCT/US02/19651 Filed 19-Jun-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having a Spider Spring Force Restoring Element	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/177,378 Filed 21-Jun-2002
Intervertebral Spacer Having a Flexible Wire Mesh Vertebral Body Contact Element	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/128,619 Filed 23-Apr-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having a Flexible Wire Mesh Vertebral Body Contact Element	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/140,153 Filed 7-May-2002
Artificial Intervertebral Disc Having a Deformable Wire Mesh Vertebral Body Contact Element	PCT	PCT Application Serial No. PCT/US02/19657 Filed 19-Jun-2002
Instrumentation and Methods For Use In Implanting an Artificial Disc	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/282,356 Filed 29-Oct-2002
Method of Surgically Treating Scoliosis	USA	US Patent No. 6,447,548 Issued 10-Sep-2002
Trial Intervertebral Distraction Spacers	USA	US Application Serial No. 09/906,119 Filed 16-Jul-2001

Attachment A (Short Form Assignment and Assumption Agreement)  
Page 8

Title	Country	Particulars
Insertion Tool For Use With Trial Intervertebral Distraction Spacers	USA	US Patent No. 6,428,544 Issued 6-Aug-2002
Insertion Tool For Use With Tapered Trial Intervertebral Distraction Spacers	USA	US Patent No. 6,478,801 Issued 12-Nov-2002
Porous Intervertebral Distraction Spacers	USA	US Patent No. 6,471,725 Issued 29-Oct-2002
Surgical Method of Treating Scoliosis	USA	US Application Serial No. 09/906,124 Filed 16-Jul-2001
Method of Distracting Vertebral Bones	USA	US Patent No. 6,436,102 Issued 20-Aug-2002
Vertebral Bone Distraction Instruments	USA	US Application Serial No. 09/906,126 Filed 16-Jul-2001
Instruments for Reorienting Vertebral Bones for the Treatment of Scoliosis	USA	US Application Serial No. 09/906,134 Filed 16-Jul-2001
Insertion Tool For Use With Intervertebral Spacers	USA	US Application Serial No. 09/906,127 Filed 16-Jul-2001
Insertion Tool For Use With Trial Intervertebral Distraction Spacers	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/115,751 Filed 3-Apr-2002
Method of Distracting Vertebral Bones	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/222,332 Filed 16-Aug-2002
Method of Surgically Treating Scoliosis	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/223,146 Filed 19-Aug-2002

Attachment A (Short Form Assignment and Assumption Agreement)  
Page 9

Title	Country	Particulars
Porous Intervertebral Distraction Spacers	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/223,148  Filed 4-Oct-2002
Insertion Tool For Use With Tapered Trial Intervertebral Distraction Spacers	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/223,147  Filed 19-Aug-2002
Static Trials and Related Instruments and Methods for Use in Implanting an Artificial Intervertebral Disc	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/309,585  Filed 4-Dec-2002
Femoral Ring Loader	USA	US Patent No. 6,440,142  Issued 27-Aug-2002
Distraction Instrument for use in Anterior Cervical Fixation Surgery	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/003,000  Filed 30-Nov-2001
Spacer Device and Insertion Instrument for use in Anterior Cervical Fixation Surgery	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/001,531  Filed 30-Nov-2001
Femoral Ring Loader	USA	US Application Serial No. 10/075,688  Filed 13-Feb-2002